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(54) **Putrescine N-methyltransferase, recombinant DNA molecules encoding putrescine N-methyltrasferase, and transgenic tobacco plants with altered nicotine content.**

(57) There is provided highly purified tobacco putrescine N-methyltransferase, a process for its purification, and production of PMT DNA sequence. The purification process includes the step of applying a tobacco root extract to an anion exchange medium and specifically eluting putrescine N-methyltransferase with an elution buffer comprising putrescine.

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
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Y	* abstract * & PLANT CELL PHYSIOL. vol. 12, no. 4, 1971, pages 633 - 640; ---	15-23	
Y	EP-A-0 240 208 (CALGENE) 17 October 1987 * page 4, line 27 - line 28 *	15,17, 19-21,23	
Y	PLANT MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, vol. 15, no. 1, July 1990, DORDRECHT, THE NETHERLANDS, pages 27 - 38; HAMILL, J.D. ET AL.: 'Over-expression of a yeast ornithine decarboxylase gene in transgenic roots of Nicotiana rustica can lead to enhanced nicotine accumulation' * page 37, right column, paragraph 1 *	15,16, 18,20-22	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	16 SEPTEMBER 1992	MADDOX A.D.	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone	Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category		
A : technological background	O : non-written disclosure		
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